

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OFA-01 L-03 SIL-01 FEA-01 USIE-00

ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

DLOS-04 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 LAB-04 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ARAE-00 /114 W

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O P 201952Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7108

INFO COMDT COGARD WASHDC PRIORITY

COMDR SEVENTH COGARD DIST MIAMI FLA PRIORITY

USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1362

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, BF

SUBJ: US/BAHAMAS SPINY LOBSTER TALKS

FROM US DELEGATION FOR ARA - ASST SEC ROGERS, OES/OFA, L/OES,
ARA/CAR, S/IL

1. STATEMENT IN DELEGATION MEETING TODAY (20 AUGUST) BY JOSE PUJOL, LEADER OF CUBAN-AMERICAN FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, EXPRESSED FEELING THAT HIS MEN WOULD BEGIN TO TAKE MATTZRS INTO OWN HANDS AFTER FRIDAY 22 AUGUST. HE NOTED THAT SOME MIGHT GO BACK TO FISHING AND THAT THE ASSOCIATION WOULD ASK THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS IT FEELS APPROPRIATE. HE SAID, QUOTE IF THEY WILL PUT ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON US, WE WILL PUT ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON THEM UNQUOTE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT, AT THAT POINT, HE WOULD NO LONGER BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE ON THE DELEGATION.

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WM IT IS DIFFICULT TO EVALUATE ACTUAL SUBSTANCE OF PUJOL'S STATEMENT AT THIS POINT. SIMILAR STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN PAST WITH LITTLE OR NO RESULTS. IN EACH CASE PUJOL HAS CLAIMED THAT HE WAS ABLE, BASED ON USG ACTIONS TO SEEK NEGOTIATIONS WITH GCOB, TO HOLD HIS PEOPLE BACK FOR AN ADDITIONAL SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. THIS MAY BE SIMILAR SITUATION NOW, AND EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS IN TALKS BY FRIDAY MIGHT TURN HIM AROUND. DELEGATION VIEW AT THIS POINT IS MIXED, BUT ON BALANCE COMES DOWN ON PUTTING SOME CREDIBILITY IN PUJOL'S STATEMENT THIS TIME. MONEY IN THE CUBAN-AMERICAN FISHING COMMUNITY IS GETTING TIGHT.

3. DELEGATION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S EVALUATION OF LIKELIHOOD OF ILA ACTION NOW. S/IL MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL INFO BASED ON CONTACTS WITH NATIONAL ILA LEADERS.
WEISS

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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